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and Titian, at the house of the first in Venice, in 1570. The scene is a sunset falling through a fine open court, familiar in Venetian architecture; and the occasion is a *fête*, the servants just clearing away the remains of a feast, while the guests are dispersed in various groups as though they had fed well and bountifully. Veronese has his portfolio open and is submitting his designs to Tintoretto and Titian.

The other is Murillo receiving the Archbishop of Seville in his studio. He has just finished "The Immaculate Conception," and the Archbishop as he looks upon the picture uncovers his head in respect to the picture.

Goupil's gallery has many exquisite pictures from French artists, among which are Messonier's study of "A Soldier," Dubuffe's "Alms," Gerome's "Louis XIV. and Moliere," besides many fine pictures by Trozon, Toulmouche, Willaus, Cabanal and others. The picture of Louis XIV. and Moliere, illustrates the story of the grand monarch rebuking his popinjay court for their contempt of the great writer. The scene is the king's bedchamber, and the courtiers have just entered to find the author and the monarch cosy over a bit of breakfast. The picture needs no praise, when we say that it is in the artist's best style.

The first Annual Exhibition of the artists in Water Color, opened at the Academy on the morning of the 20th. Hart, Coleman, Fenn, Boughton, Lumley, McGrath, Bellows and many others are contributors. Next week we shall take up their works and faithfully examine them.

At Leeds gallery there has been a sale of the last remaining specimens of those charming little pictures which sprang with such facility from the pencil of the late Dr. Ruggles. The prices which these gems brought must have troubled lovers of good pictures to think that they had not been more appreciative of the artist during his life, and have gladdened the heart and pocket of his widow for whose benefit the sale was. Some of the pictures which during the life of the artist would not have brought more than \$10, sold as high as \$110 or \$120, and others elicited a warm competition, showing that at last the admirers of the artist appreciated him in a financial point of view. We shall never again see such gems of color, and we predict that a few years will treble their price.

#### GEORGE F. BRISTOW'S NEW ORATORIO.

Mr. Bristow's new oratorio, "Daniel," will be produced this evening by the Mendelssohn Union. The interest attached to this work by a native composer, should be wide felt, for it is an important event in the

history of a new country. We call the attention of our readers to it, and shall notice its performance at length in our next. Every musician should make a point of being present, for it is an occasion of deep interest to all who hope for the rapid onward progress of art.

#### MUSIC ON CHRISTMAS-DAY.

The music at many churches on Christmas-Day was especially good. At St. John's the choir performed admirably under Dr. Pech's excellent management, and Porter's service in D and the Anthem from the Messiah received full justice from them. At the South Dutch Church, in Fifth Avenue, corner of Twenty-first street, the high reputation for good musical performance was sustained in the execution by a double quartette—Mrs. Farnsworth, late Hattie Andem, Misses Harrison, Meyer and Lissenden, Messrs. W. J. Hill, Eager, Beckett, and Booth, of Christmas Hymn—Adeste Fideles—Anthem by Hopkins, "Let us go, even unto Bethlehem," 110th Hymn, and Anthem from Haydn's 3d Mass, "Sing unto God." The latter made a profound impression, both as a composition and the fine style in which it was given. The congregation at this Church fully appreciate the excellence of their choir and music as prepared for them by Mr. Connolly, organist, and Mr. Wardwell, the musical director. They afford cheerfully the means to acquire such excellence.

At St. Bridget's Church, Mr. James Caulfield, organist and conductor, brought out for the first time in this country Gounod's celebrated Mass. The soloists were Mme. Reveille, soprano; Miss Cox, contralto; Mr. Dehnhoff, tenor; and Mr. Haden, basso. This composition relies much for effect upon orchestral and choral aids, but with the force at Mr. Caulfield's disposal he accomplished very much and propitiated the public to Gounod's praise. The Mass is divided into *Kyrie*, *Gloria*, *Credo*, *Sanctus*, *Benedictus*, and *Agnus Dei*, the *Gloria* being the most striking and effective; the solo for soprano is written for choral accompaniment, in six parts, hummed only. There is a piece for seven voices, with obligato pedal, the soprano and tenor have solos in *Sanctus* and *Agnus Dei*, the bass in the *Gloria*.

At St. Stephen's Church the well-known Twelfth Mass of Mozart was given with large choral and orchestral accessories. Their effects were better than were possible to be obtained from the soloists, whose voices were sadly overlaid by instrumental force.

At St. Patrick's Cathedral, which is remarkably favorable to vocal performance, there was excellent music thrice on Christmas-Day. At 10½ o'clock Mandanici's fine Mass had thorough illustration by a very efficient choir, and the soloists, Mme.

Chome, Mrs. Grosz, Mrs. Werner, Mr. H. Schmitz, and Mr. Sohst. We have not heard four better voices or better executants in a choir than Mme. Chome, Mrs. Grosz, and Messrs. Schmitz and Sohst, and greatly as Mme. Chome has distinguished herself before in church music, we deemed her solo performance on that occasion a positive advance to pre-eminence. The offertory was Rossini's *O Salutaris*. At vespers there was much done to increase the acceptance with musicians of Mr. Gustave Schmitz, the organist and conductor, and his well-selected vocalists. The sole defect was in the miserable organ furnished until the new one is ready.

#### OLE BULL.

Ole Bull, the world-renowned violinist, left this city for Albany on Tuesday last. He will devote a week or two to the arrangement of his business, he being a large holder of real estate in the West, and will also visit a Norwegian settlement, in the welfare of which he is deeply interested. After which he will commence an extensive Concert tour through the West and South, extending probably as far as New Orleans. He will then visit New York and give some concerts on a grand scale.

He has engaged the well-known artiste Madame Varian Hoffman, who is immensely popular in the West, to accompany him, together with M. Pollak, the baritone, and Mr. Edward Hoffman as solo pianist and accompanist.

As soon as the fact of Mr. Ole Bull's arrival was made known, the Managers were all on the alert, and offers of engagement poured in upon him, but he determined to act for himself, entrusting his business to Mr. F. Widdows, and relying upon his universal popularity for success.

#### NEW BOOKS.

We have before us the last issue of the Dickens Diamond Edition, in the shape of "The Commercial Traveller," and other Christmas stories, from Messrs. Ticknor & Fields.

We have so often commended this charming issue of the works of Charles Dickens, that language seems useless. We can readily understand the pride the author must feel in viewing an edition of his works in this country more than competing with the best of them in his own land, and combining all the requisites of typography, illustration, neatness, artistical binding, and good paper. The present volume contains several stories not included in any other volume issued in this country, and it was collected and revised by Mr. Dickens himself, and is the only edition authorized by him. Add to this that it is essentially the cheapest in the world, and